

2022 Virtual TA Institute

Breakout Room Notes

Session Number: 3

Breakout Room Title: Centers Attached to Schools of Education or Human Services

Facilitator:

Attendees: Christopher Murray, Chris Knowles, Katey Burke, Hye Park, Cindy Thomas, Matthew Wappett, Randall Owen, Julie Fodor, Michelle Aguigui, Karan Burnette, Sandy Magaña

Notetaker: Jamie Koenig

Notes:

- Various councils/bodies that provide administrative support and input
- A few in the middle of dean searches – lots of dean turnover
 - Needing to be sure that new deans aren't just concerned with faculty/preparing teachers. Staff contributions sometimes overlooked/minimized
 - Dean transitions can be very time consuming. It's a lot of effort to get new Deans to understand UCEDDs
- For some centers, indirects are the only discretionary funds so it's very important to protect them
- Very variable how much UCEDDs get from universities. Getting little can be good because then less beholden to the university
 - University of Oregon UCEDD is fairly self-sufficient
- How to pay the director's salary is variable across UCEDDs
 - Many use the core grant or indirects
- Biggest thing is how to negotiate for more indirects, to use to build the UCEDD
- Some UCEDDs have to give layoff notices 90 days out given a lack of money in the bank – grants can be pending but not granted – and the university won't allow them to roll money across fiscal years
 - Can make case for rainy day funds to build some stability, pitched as bridge funding. The university allowed a new policy to be made for that
- Many struggle with navigating policy conversations – operations don't always run the most efficiently or don't communicate well or don't relate well to the academic side of things
- Other personnel costs (e.g., health) have increased dramatically and the cost is higher for non-tenure track. Essentially another way to shrink a budget

- Has anyone run into issues with intellectual property? Concerned with equity issues of who the “inventor” would be and worry that “inventor payout” would make it difficult to keep projects updated.
 - Utah as a few, tied to software licenses and proprietary programs. Took about 5 years to figure out income distribution, etc. Ultimately ended up being fairly simple and straightforward
- Issues are less about administrative home and more about the university. Seems to be a lack of understanding about how grant-funded centers work
 - A good administrative home can make a big difference for some
- Risk management is a big issue with the university as well
- Would being under the provost allow greater freedom?